



Barrie Cook
Lots 159, 160 & 166

Opening Preview Saturday 18th April 2026, 6–8pm

Exhibition Continues until Sunday 24th May

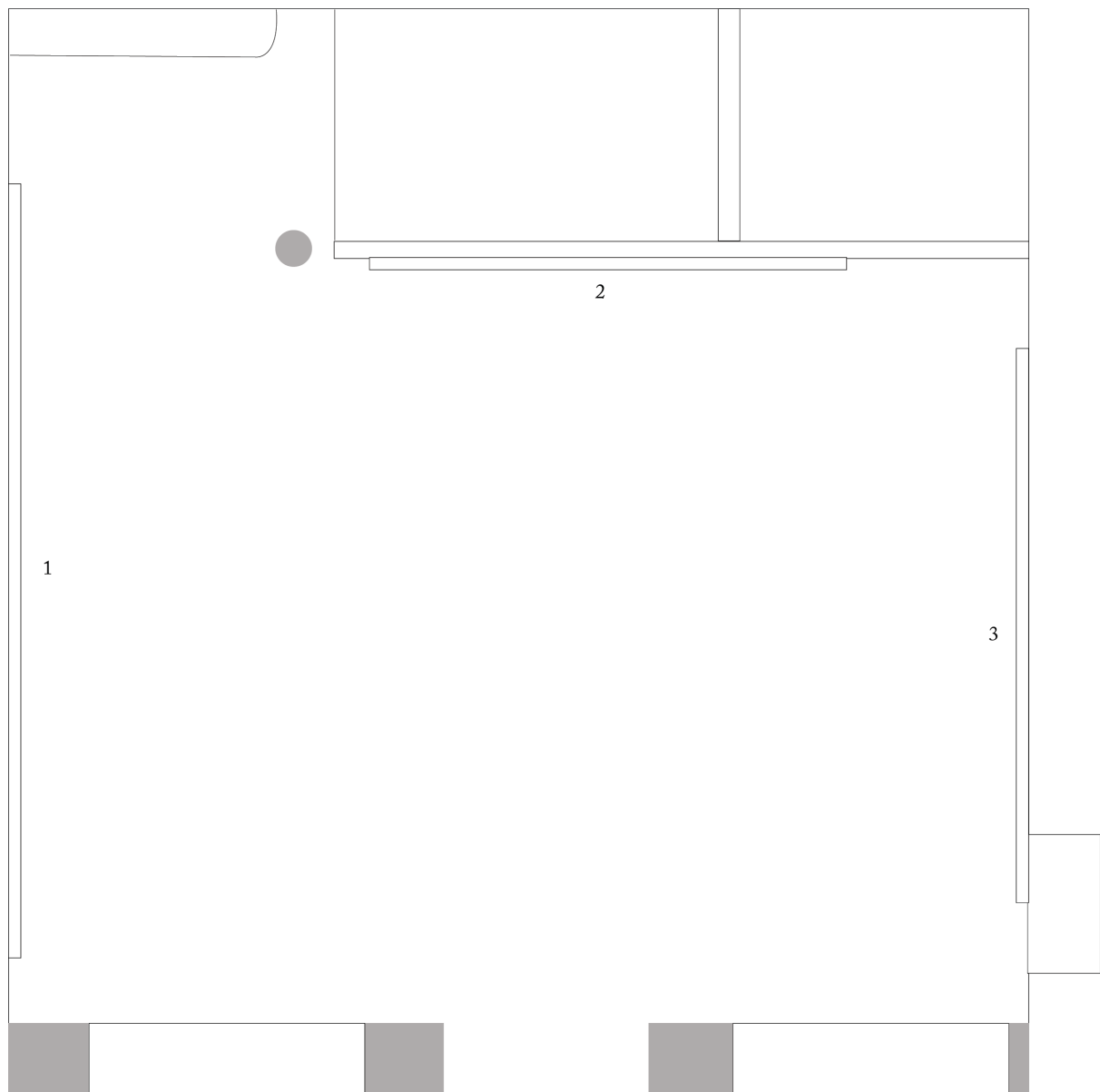
Open Saturday-Sunday, 12-5pm,

and by appointment: hello@ivorytars.co.uk

Ivory Tars is pleased to present an exhibition of three paintings by Barrie Cook (b.1929, Birmingham, d.2020, The Lizard), purchased as unstretched lots from an auction in Penzance on the 1st August 2024.

Due to their size, it is commonplace for large-scale abstract paintings to be removed from their stretchers and rolled for the purposes of transportation and storage. During the time they spend unstretched however, the value of these canvases alters. No longer viewable in the manner that they were intended to be, they await a moment at which those optimal conditions are once more bestowed upon them. This diminished visual intelligibility is in turn reflected in the economic worth afforded to these unsupported objects.

‘Support’ in this instance can refer to a physical frame that acts to holds a painted surface in tension, but also to a broader system –at once logistical, financial, critical and ideological– that accommodates such tensioned surfaces.



1. Barrie Cook, *Continuum*, 1974
Acrylic on canvas, 301 x 423cm
2. Barrie Cook, *Pointillist*, c.1965
Acrylic on canvas, 228 x 261cm
3. Barrie Cook, *Ziggy Zag*, 1972
Acrylic on canvas, 242 x 303cm